



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1646**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/901,556
Applicant : Höttgen et al.
Filed : September 24, 1999
TC/A.U. : 1646
Examiner : P. Mertz

Docket No. : 2923-286
Customer No. : 06449
Confirmation No. : 3191

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

June 17, 2004

Sir:

If the attached response and amendments are not found to place the application in condition for allowance, applicants hereby request that the Examiner contact applicant's undersigned representative to schedule an interview. The applicants believe that the rejections can be overcome by amending the claim language and would like to discuss possible amendments which would place the claims in condition for allowance.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fee for such an

extension together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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